GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:212
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2006
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the unemployment rate in the country has gone up in the recent years compared to 2000 figures;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the percentage of rural and urban unemployment and the reasons for this high percentage; and

(c) the fresh steps being taken by the Government to bring down the unemployment rate both in rural and urban areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU)

(a & b) Reliable estimates of employment & unemployment are obtained through quinquennial labour force surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Organisation. Last such survey for which results are available pertains to the year 1999-2000. Therefore, reliable estimates beyond 2000 are not available.

(c) Besides the creation of employment opportunities in the normal growth process, Government is also implementing various employment generation and poverty alleviation programmes both in rural and urban areas of the country. Latest initiative taken by the Government in the rural areas is the launch of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme which aims at providing 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a year to each rural house hold.